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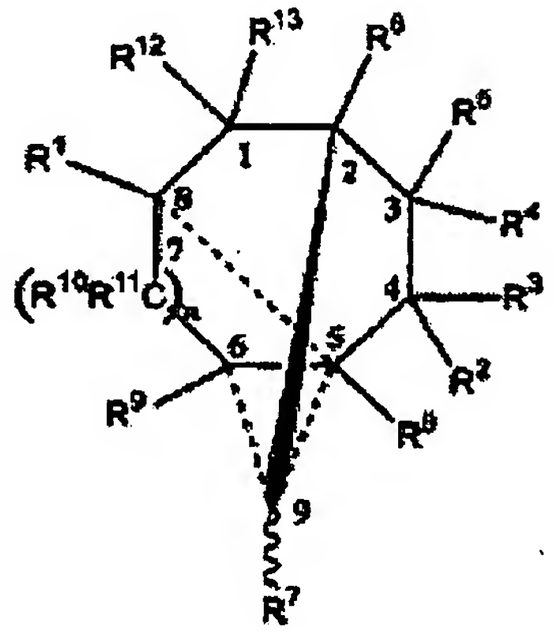
In the Claims:

1.(previously presented) A compound of formula I



wherein

R^1, R^4, R^6 and R^7 are independently hydrogen, methyl or ethyl;

R^2 and R^3 are independently hydrogen, or C_{1-5} alkyl; or

R^2 and R^3 together with the carbon atom to which they are attached form a 5- or 6-membered cycloylkyl ring;

R^5 is hydrogen, or C_{1-4} alkyl;

R^8 is hydrogen, or branched lower C_{3-7} alkyl;

R^9 is hydrogen, methyl , ethyl, or branched lower C_{3-7} alkyl ;

R^{10} is ethyl or propyl;

R^{11} is C_{1-4} alkyl;

R^{12} is hydroxy;

R^{13} is hydrogen, or C_{1-4} alkyl; or

R^{12} and R^{13} together with the carbon atom to which they are attached form a carbonyl group; the dashed line represents either a C-C single bond or no bond; and

a) when C5 and C8 are connected by a single bond and C9 and C6 are connected by a single bond, C9 and C5 are not connected by a bond,
n=1,

R^7, R^8 are hydrogen, and

R^9 is hydrogen, methyl or ethyl; or

b) when C5 and C8 are connected by a single bond and C9 and C6 are connected by a single bond, C9 and C5 are not connected,

n=0,

R^7, R^8 is hydrogen,

R^9 is a branched lower C_{3-7} alkyl; or

c) when C5 and C8 are not connected by a bond, C9 and C5 are connected by a single bond,

R^7 is hydrogen, methyl or ethyl,

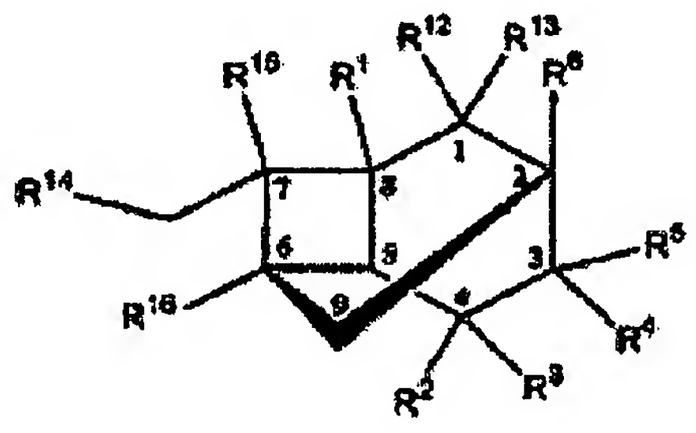
R^8 is a branched lower C_{3-7} alkyl, or

R^7 and R^8 together with the carbon atoms to which they are attached form a 5- or 6-membered cycloalkyl ring,

n = 0, and

the bond between C6 and C8 may be a single bond or a double bond.

2.(withdrawn) A compound according to claim 1 having a formula Ia



Ia

wherein

R^1, R^4, R^6, R^{14} and R^{16} are independently hydrogen, methyl or ethyl;

R^2 and R^3 are independently hydrogen, or C_{1-5} alkyl; or,

R^2 and R^3 together with the carbon atom to which they are attached form a 5- or 6-membered cycloalkyl ring;

R^5 is hydrogen, or C_{1-4} alkyl;

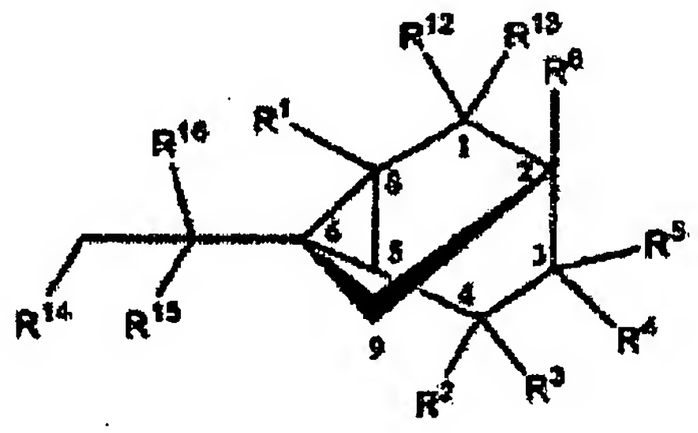
R^{15} is C_{1-4} alkyl;

R^{12} is hydroxy;

R^{13} is hydrogen or C_{1-4} alkyl; or

R^{12} and R^{13} together with the carbon atom to which they are attached form a carbonyl group.

3.(withdrawn) A compound according to claim 1 of formula Ib,



Ib

wherein

R^1, R^4, R^6, R^{14} and R^{16} are independently hydrogen, methyl or ethyl;

R^2 and R^3 are independently hydrogen, or C_{1-5} alkyl; or,

R^2 and R^3 together with the carbon atom to which they are attached form a 5- or 6-membered cycloalkyl ring;

R^5 is hydrogen, or C_{1-4} alkyl;

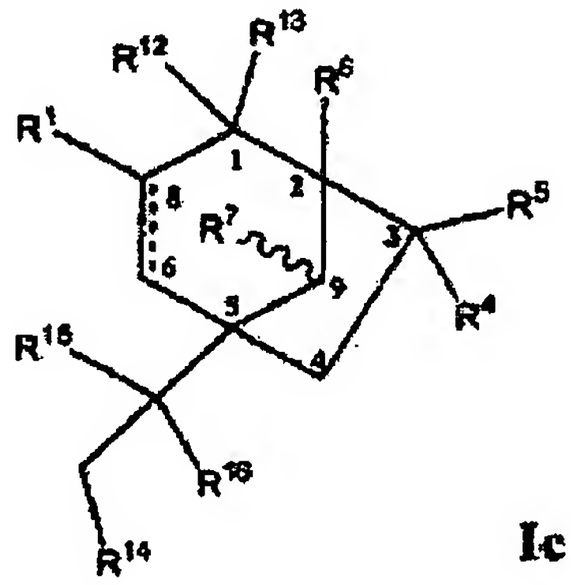
R^{15} is C_{1-4} alkyl

R^{12} is hydroxy;

R^{13} is hydrogen or C_{1-4} alkyl; or

R^{12} and R^{13} together with the carbon atom to which they are attached form a carbonyl group.

4.(original) A compound according to claim I of formula Ic,



Ic

wherein

R^1, R^4, R^6, R^{14} and R^{16} are independently hydrogen, methyl or ethyl;

R^5 is hydrogen, or C_{1-5} alkyl;

R^7 and R^{14} are independently hydrogen, methyl or ethyl; or,

R^7 and R^{14} together with the carbon atoms to which they are attached form a 5- or 6-membered cycloalkyl ring;

R^{15} is C_{1-4} alkyl;

R^{12} is hydroxy;

R^{13} is hydrogen or C_{1-4} alkyl; or

R^{12} and R^{13} together with the carbon atom to which they are attached form a carbonyl group; and

the bond between C6 and C8 may be a single bond;

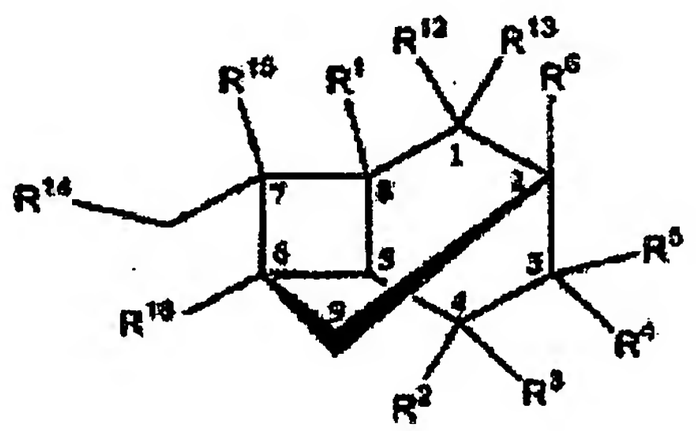
or the dotted line together with the bond between C6 and C8 may represent a double bond.

5.(original) A compound according to claim 1 selected from the group consisting of 1,5,7,8,8-Pentamethyl-tricyclo[3.3.1.$0^{2,7}$]nonan-6-one; 1,5,7,8,8-Pentamethyl-tricyclo[3.3.1.$0^{2,7}$]nonan-6-one; 1,3,3,5,7,8,8-Heptamethyl-tricyclo[3.3.1.$0^{2,7}$]nonan-6- one; 3,3,5,7,8,8-Hexamethyl-tricyclo[3.3.1.$0^{2,7}$]nonan-6-one; 3,3,5,8,8-Pentamethyltricyclo[3.3.1.$0^{2,7}$]nonan-6-one; 5,7,8,8-Tetramethyl-tricyclo[3.3.1.$0^{2,7}$]nonan-6-one; 1- Isopropyl-3,3,5-trimethyl-

tricyclo[3.2.1.$0^{2,7}$]octan-6-one; 5-Isopropyl-1,3-dimethylbicyclo[3.2.1]oct-3-en-2-one; 5-Isopropyl-1,3-dimethyl-bicyclo[3.2.1]octan-2-one; 5-tertButyl-1,3-dimethyl-bicyclo[3.2.1]oct-3-en-2-one; 5-sec-Butyl-1,3-dimethylbicyclo[3.2.1]oct-3-ene-2-one; 5-Isopropyl-3-methyl-bicyclo[3.2.1]oct-3-ene-2-one; 5,7-Diisopropyl-3-methyl-bicyclo[3 .2.1]oct-3-en-2-one; 5-Isopropyl-3,7,7-trimethyl-bicyclo[3.2.1]oct-3-en-2-one; 1,3,5-Trimethyl-1,5,6,7,8,8a-hexahydro-1,4a-ethano-naphthalen-2-one; and 5,6,7,8,8-Pentamethyl-tricyclo[3.3.1.$0^{2,7}$]nonan-6-ol.

6.(previously presented) A flavour or fragrance composition comprising a compound according to claim 1.

7.(withdrawn - currently amended) A flavour or fragrance composition according to claim 6 comprising at least one compound selected from the group of compounds of formula Ia ~~as defined in claim 2~~



Ia

wherein

R^1, R^4, R^6, R^{14} and R^{16} are independently hydrogen, methyl or ethyl;

R^2 and R^3 are independently hydrogen, or C_{1-5} alkyl; or,

R^2 and R^3 together with the carbon atom to which they are attached form a 5- or 6-membered cycloalkyl ring;

R^5 is hydrogen, or C_{1-4} alkyl;

R^{15} is C_{1-4} alkyl;

R^{12} is hydroxy;

R^{13} is hydrogen or C_{1-4} alkyl; or

R^{12} and R^{13} together with the carbon atom to which they are attached form a carbonyl group

and at least one compound selected from the group of compounds of formula Ic as defined in claim 4.

8.(withdrawn) A flavour or fragrance composition according to claim 7 comprising 5-tert-Butyl-1,3-dimethyl-bicyclo[3.2.1]oct-3-en-2-one and 1,5,7,8,8-Pentamethyl-tricyclo[3.3.1.$0^{2,7}$]nonan-6-one.

9.(withdrawn – currently amended) A fragrance application comprising the ~~The use of a~~ compound according to claim 1, wherein the fragrance application is a ~~in~~ fragrance ~~and~~ or a flavour ~~applications~~ application.

10.(withdrawn – currently amended) A fragrance application comprising the ~~The use of~~ a compound according to claim 1 ~~9~~, wherein the fragrance application is selected from the group consisting of perfume ~~in perfumes~~, a household ~~products~~ product, a laundry product~~products~~, a body care product ~~products~~, and a cosmetic product~~cosmetics~~.

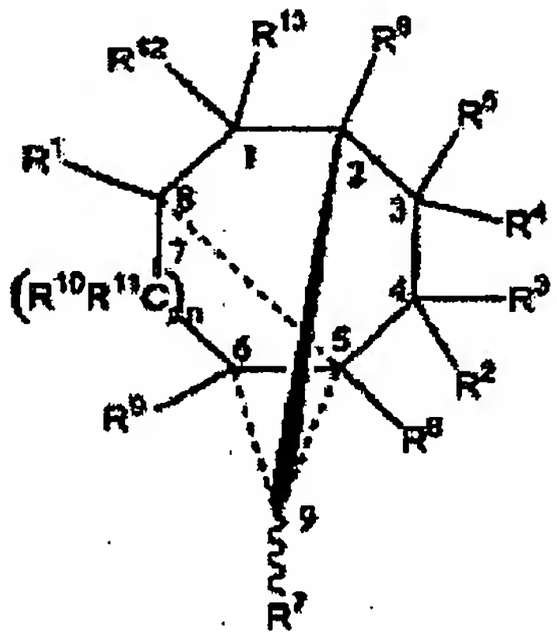
11.(previously presented) The use in a fragrance application, flavour application, in a perfume, in a household product, in a laundry product, in a body care product or in a cosmetic product wherein a compound according to claim 1 is provided in an amount from 0.001 to 20% by weight.

12.(original) A method of manufacturing a flavour or fragrance composition, comprising the step of incorporating a compound of formula I as defined in claim 1 to a base material.

13.(original) A method of manufacturing a fragranced application, comprising the incorporation of a compound of formula I as defined in claim 1.

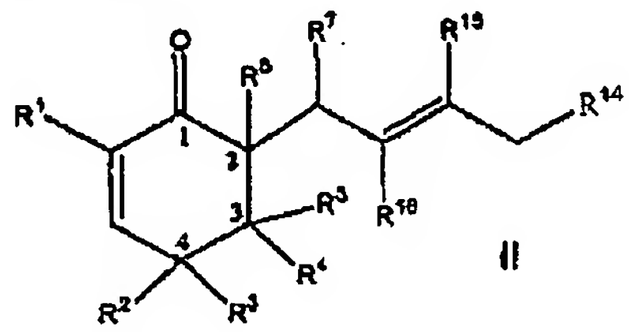
14.(original) A method according to claim 13 wherein the fragranced application is selected from the group consisting of perfume, household product, laundry product, body care product and cosmetics.

15.(previously presented) A process of preparing a compound of the formula I as defined in claim 1



I

comprising the step of reacting a compound of formula II with ethyl aluminium dichloride or methyl aluminium dichloride



II

wherein

R^1, R^4, and R^6 are independently hydrogen, methyl or ethyl;

R^2 and R^3 are independently hydrogen, or C_{1-5} alkyl; or

R^2 and R^3 together with the carbon atom to which they are attached form a 5- or 6-membered cycloylkyl ring;

R^5 is hydrogen, or $_{C1-4}$ alkyl;

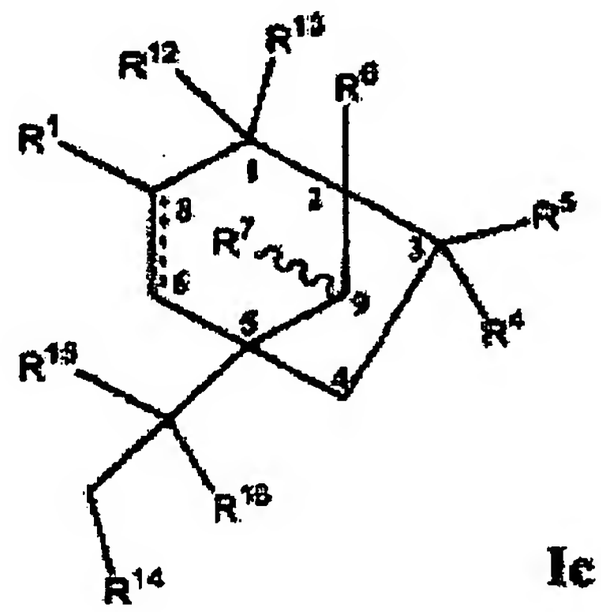
R^7 and R^{14} are independently hydrogen, methyl or ethyl; or

R^7 and R^{14} together with the carbon atoms to which they are attached form a 5- or 6-membered cycloalkane ring;

R^{16} is hydrogen, or lower branched C_{3-7}, alkyl,

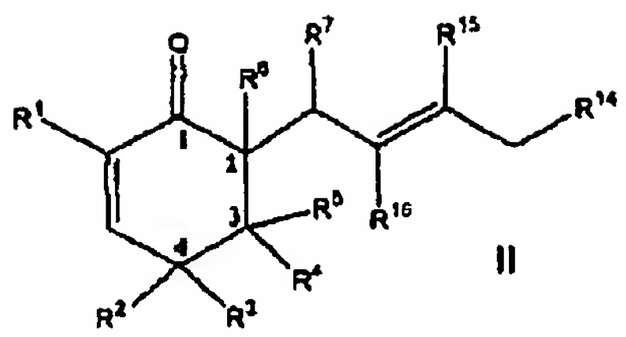
and optionally followed by the step of reduction and/or alkylation of the carbonyl group at C1.

16.(previously presented) A process of preparing a compound of the general formula Ic



Ic

comprising the step of converting a compound of formula II by photochemical induction



II

wherein

R^2, R^3 , and R^{16} are hydrogen;

R^1, R^4 and R^6 are independently hydrogen, methyl or ethyl;

R^7 and R^{14} are independently hydrogen, methyl or ethyl; or

R^7 and R^{14} together with the carbon atoms to which they are attached form a 5- or 6-membered cycloalkane ring;

R^5 is hydrogen, linear or branched C_{1-4} alkyl;

R^{15} is linear or branched C_{1-4} alkyl; and

and optionally followed by the step of hydrogenation across the double bond at C6 and C8, and

optionally followed by the step of reduction and/or alkylation of the carbonyl group at C1.